

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 135960

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:AORG, APER, UN

SUBJECT:PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENTS: UN, GENEVA

REF: A) GENEVA 8028; B) USUN 2087; C) GENEVA 7964;
D) GENEVA 7226; E) STATE 125986

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES US MISSION GENEVA'S ALERT
REPORTING AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING WHETHER SOVIETS
OR AMERICANS SHOULD HAVE THEIR NATIONALS IN TOP
PERSONNEL SLOTS IN UN SYSTEM. IN CONSIDERING WHETHER
TO INSIST ON A PRINCIPLE THAT NEITHER US NOR SOVIETS
SHOULD HOLD SUCH SLOTS, WE HAVE ANALYZED THE LATEST
UN STAFF LIST IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHERE WE STAND
RELATIVELY IN THIS CATEGORY. WE FIND THAT THERE ARE
23 AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS IN UN OFFICE OF PERSONNEL AT
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HEADQUARTERS OR IN PERSONNEL JOBS WITH SECRETARIAT
COMPONENTS ABROAD. THE SOVIETS HAVE NINE SUCH POSITIONS,
INCLUDING THREE UKRANIANS. AMERICANS CURRENTLY HOLD
THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL FOR UNRWA AND CHIEF
OF PERSONNEL IN WIPO. IN FAO, WHO AND IAEA,
PERSONNEL DEPARTMENTS COME UNDER AMERICANS WHO HOLD THE
TOP ADMINISTRATIVE JOBS. IN UN SECRETARIAT, AN AMERICAN

IS D-2 DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION. IN UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA, CHIEF OF PERSONNEL IS ALSO AMERICAN.

2. IN CONTRAST, THE SOVIETS HOLD ONLY FOLLOWING TOP PERSONNEL JOBS:

- D-2 DIRECTOR OF DIVISION FOR POLICY COORDINATION WITHIN OFFICE OF PERSONNEL;
- THE TOP ADMINISTRATIVE POST IN UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION TO AFRICA.

3. WE THUS CONCLUDE THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD BENEFIT RELATIVELY MORE THAN THE US SHOULD WE ESTABLISH GENERAL PRINCIPLE THAT NATIONALS OF NEITHER GOVERNMENT COULD HOLD KEY PERSONNEL JOBS. WE NEVERTHELESS AGREE THAT IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO BAR DNEPROVSKY FROM THE JOB IN GENEVA AS CHIEF OF PERSONNEL DIVISION, BUT WE WOULD HOPE TO DO SO ON GROUNDS OTHER THAN PRINCIPLE. IN THIS REGARD, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW INDEPENDENT HIS OPERATION WILL ACTUALLY BE AS CHIEF OF PERSONNEL. JOB IS UNDER RUEDAS (SPAIN), DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, WHO PRESUMABLY COULD BE COUNTED ON TO EXERCISE SUPERVISORY CONTROLS SHOULD INCUMBENT BE GIVEN TO EXCESSES. ALSO, HEADS OF SECTION UNDER CHIEF OF PERSONNEL, ACCORDING TO OUR RECORDS, ARE LARGELY UK AND FRENCH AND ONE WOULD EXPECT THEM ALSO TO BE ALERT TO ANY CONFIDENTIAL

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IRREGULARITIES OR EXCESSES. WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS OF MISSION GENEVA.

4. OUR INCLINATION, SUBJECT TO ADVICE OF GENEVA AND USUN, WOULD BE TO AVOID UNILATERAL US DEMARCHE TO WALDHEIM OBJECTING TO DNEPROVSKY'S PROSPECTIVE ASSIGNMENT TO UNOG PERSONNEL POST. INSTEAD, WE WOULD BE INCLINED TO URGE UK, FRANCE OR OTHER INTERESTED WESTERN GOVERNMENTS TO CARRY THE BALL. IN ANY SUCH APPROACH, WE WOULD NOT BE INCLINED TO URGE APPLICATION OF ROTATION PRINCIPLE REFERRED TO BY USUN IN REFTTEL B SINCE WE ARE SO TENACIOUSLY PURSUING WITH WALDHEIM RETENTION OF AMERICANS IN KEY POSTS.

5. ANOTHER OPTION AVAILABLE, WHICH USUN MIGHT DISCUSS WITH UKUN, WOULD INVOLVE BID BY UKUN NATIONAL FOR UNOG JOB. WE LEARN THAT GEOFFREY HOLMES (UK, D-1), CHIEF OF PERSONNEL SERVICES FOR UNIDO, IS INTERESTED IN REPLACING ABDOU CISS AS CHIEF OF UNOG PERSONNEL DIVISION-- HOLMES HAS BEEN IN PRESENT POST SINCE 1967. FROM 1966 TO 1967 WAS ADMIN OFFICER AT UNOG, AND FROM 1949 TO 1963 SERVED IN OTHER CAPACITIES IN UNOG. OUR IMPRESSION OF

HIM IS THAT HE IS A COMPETENT AND FAIR PERSONNEL OFFICER,
ALBEIT SOMEWHAT RIGID AND DULL. US MISSION TO UNIDO
MAY HAVE OTHER VIEWS ON HOLMES AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE
HEARING THEM. IT JUST POSSIBLE THAT HE COULD BE VIABLE

ALTERNATIVE TO DNEPROVSKY IN UNOG POST AND THAT UK AND
OTHERS, INCLUDING US, COULD SUPPORT HIM. WE MUST BE
CAREFUL, HOWEVER, THAT U: DO NOT LEAVE OPEN UNIDO
PERSONNEL POST FOR A SOVIET. PERHAPS MISSION TO UNIDO
COULD COMMENT ON LIKELY INTERNAL SUCCESSORS SHOULD
HOLMES DEPART, E.G., MARTYN EGGOUGH (NIGERIA), ROGER
DIETSCHY (FRANCE).

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